

NEWS RELEASE January 22, 2018 Contact: Kristin Walker endow@wyo.gov 307.690.4705

## **ENDOW Executive Council Calls for Private & Public-Sector Input at Cheyenne Meeting Governor Mead to Make Announcement on Recently Released Preliminary Recommendations**

**Cheyenne, Wyoming** – With the goal of soliciting feedback from private and public-sector stakeholders and defining the process for ENDOW (Economically Needed Diversity Options for Wyoming) in 2018, the Executive Council will host a public meeting this week in Cheyenne. Governor Matthew Mead will be in attendance and is slated to make an announcement related to the Council's recent preliminary recommendations.

The public, as well as the media, are invited to participate in meetings on **Thursday, January 25** from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday, January 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The meetings will be held at Laramie County Community College's Clay Pathfinder Building, ANB Bank Leadership Center located at 1400 E College Drive. The ENDOW Executive Council sessions will also be broadcast live via Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ENDOWyo">www.facebook.com/ENDOWyo</a>. **Governor Mead is** scheduled to make an announcement regarding action on ENDOW's preliminary recommendations on Friday, January 26 at 11:00 a.m.

Per state statute requirements, the ENDOW Executive Council recently submitted their preliminary findings and recommendations to Governor Mead and the Wyoming State Legislature. The findings, a first step in a multi-year process, include ten recommendations representing a mix of legislative and executive actions, policy changes and funding requests.

The ENDOW Executive Council is encouraging members of the private and public-sector to attend the meeting and provide feedback on the preliminary findings as well as suggestions for areas and industries of opportunity.

An agenda summary for the ENDOW Cheyenne meeting is as follows. Please note the agenda is subject to change:

Thursday, January 25, 2018

8:15 a.m.: Welcome, Review Agenda 8:30 a.m.: December Report Overview

9:00 a.m.: Structure and Purpose of the "House" of ENDOW

- Affirm Sector Groups and Potential Working Groups
  - Data/Service/IT
  - Advanced Manufacturing

- Agriculture/Food/Beverages
- Energy/Minerals
- Tourism/Outdoors
- Innovation/Entrepreneurism
- Other Potential Working Groups
  - Council Governance, Committee Oversights
  - Enablers

**10:45** a.m.: Break

11:00 a.m.: Economic Industry Trade Association Leader Input

- What specific input does your industry have for the Executive Council in our efforts to expand and diversify Wyoming's economy?
- What opportunities exist within the industry you represent to expand and diversify Wyoming economy?
- Having seen the socioeconomic report and ENDOW's preliminary findings and recommendations, share specific advice or observations.

**12:00 p.m.:** Break

**12:15 p.m.:** Working Lunch – ENDOW Support Agency Input/Observations

 Panel Discussion with Shawn Reese, CEO, Wyoming Business Council; John Cox, Director, Department of Workforce Services; Steve Farkas, Assistant Dean, UW College of Business; Alex Kean, Administrator, Department of Administration and Information, Economic Analysis Division; Jim Rose, Executive Director, Wyoming Community College Commission

**1:15 p.m**.: Break

**1:30 p.m.:** Community Colleges Response to Workforce Training Needs

 Overview of Current and Planned Initiatives for diversifying Wyoming's Economy

**3:15 p.m.:** Break

3:30 p.m.: Breakout Group Discussions Based on Working Groups

4:00 p.m.: Report Out by Group 4:30 p.m.: Public Comment

**5:00 p.m.:** Adjourn

## Friday, January 26, 2018

8:30 a.m.: Breakfast and Communication Update

9:30 a.m.: Business Development and Innovation Zones with Sarah Fitz-Gerald,

Industrial Development Manager, Wyoming Business Council

**10:15 a.m.:** Overview of Process Milestones with Jerimiah Rieman, Director of Economic Diversification Strategy and Initiatives, Office of the Governor and Mary Byrnes with Switchback Partners, LLC

**10:45 a.m.:** Break, Welcome Governor and Leadership

11:00 a.m.: Governor Mead

- Overview of Response to Report
- Executive and Legislative Priorities
- Governor Mead to Make Announcement

12:30 pm.: Working Lunch

- Finalize Committees and Committee Structure
- Webinar on State Agency Expertise, Resources with Jerimiah Rieman,
  Director of Economic Diversification Strategy and Initiatives, Office of the Governor

**1:30 pm.:** Adjourn

For questions, please contact ENDOW Communications Coordinator Kristin Walker at 307-690-4705, or email <a href="mailto:endow@wyo.gov">endow@wyo.gov</a>.

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## ABOUT ENDOW

ENDOW aims to facilitate broader, lasting economic growth at the state and local level by capitalizing on the state's No. 1 strength: Wyoming people. ENDOW is an opportunity for Wyoming to take the reins and realize a future where the state can prosper no matter the economic climate or the status of commodity prices.

The ENDOW Executive Council submitted its first report to Gov. Matt Mead and the Wyoming Legislature on Aug. 30. The <u>Wyoming socioeconomic assessment</u> established a baseline for the <u>Preliminary Recommendations</u> submitted on Dec. 29, 2017. The economic diversification strategy is due by Aug. 1, 2018. Additional information on ENDOW can found at <u>www.endowyo.biz</u>.